Public Health Study Commission

Implementation of House Bill 2: Prohibit Smoking in Certain Public Places – Status Report

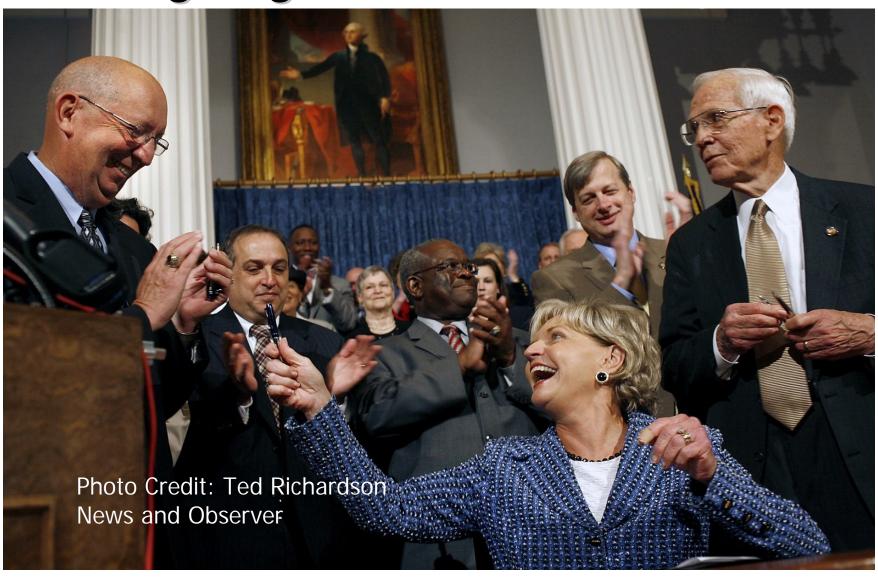




Sally Herndon Malek, MPH November 5, 2009



House Bill 2: Signing Was A Celebration!



NEW NC Smoke-free Law

What the new NC law covers:

- Smoke-free restaurants and bars (enclosed areas)
- Smoke-free lodging facilities that serve food and drink— (up to 20% of guest rooms may allow smoking)
- Very limited exemptions
 - Cigar bars that meet requirements
 - Private clubs—country clubs or membership clubs with selected membership, non-profit status and restricted food and lodging services
- Allows local government authority to pass some further restrictions for all government grounds and other public places







How will NC public health and NC businesses implement the new law?

Webinar Series:

Implementing NC's Smokefree Restaurant and Bars Law:

What Local Health Directors Need to Know What Local Health Department Staff Need to Know What County and City Attorneys Need to Know



EDUCATION IS KEY to successful implementation!

Business Education

Public Education

Website

www.smokefree.nc.gov

Business Guides

Two Mailings

Collaborations with NC
Restaurant and Lodging
Association

Website

Earned media

Paid media

Community events

Coasters







How will we know the new law is working?

1. Compliance data

Local health departments

2. Exposure data – pre and post

Air quality monitoring

3. Health outcomes data

- Acute myocardial infarction ED visits & hospitalizations
- Asthma related ED visits



With education and public support, the vast majority of restaurants and bars will quickly come into compliance.

What constitutes compliance?

A person in charge of a restaurant, bar, or lodging establishment that is subject to the new law must:

- Post the required no-smoking signs in conspicuous locations.
- Remove indoor ashtrays and other smoking receptacles.
- Direct any person who is smoking to extinguish the cigarette, cigar, or other item.

Rules for Successful Implementation

- Simple, common sense
 - Cigar bar reporting
 - Signage requirements for implementation
 - > CARE-LINE Number
 - > www.smokefree.nc.gov
- Supported by bill sponsors
- Public hearing held with no negative comments
- Commission for Public Health adopted proposed rules on October 30



NO SMOKING -Indoors-

G.S. 130A-497

1-800-662-7030 www.smokefree.nc.gov

A Complaint-driven System of Enforcement

If a manager does not take action, complaints can be registered by:

- •Calling CARE-LINE: 1-800-662-7030
- Visiting www.smokefree.nc.gov
- Contacting the local health department

Local Health Department's Roles & Actions

Local health department may act to ensure compliance through:

Educating



First and foremost!

- public
- business
- Promoting the benefits of the new law
- Providing technical assistance to businesses
- Verifying complaints
- Documenting violations
- Imposing administrative penalties



The vast majority of restaurants & bars will quickly come into compliance.

Customers should ask manager to comply.

Owner, manager, and staff are responsible.



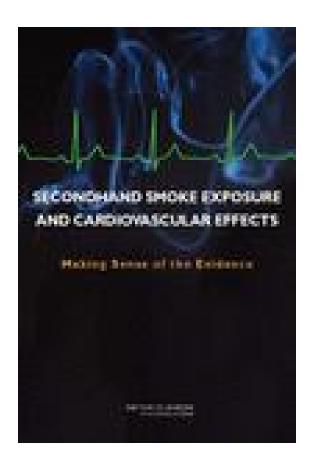
New IOM Report:

Secondhand Smoke and Cardiovascular Effects

- Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- An American has a heart attack nearly every 25 seconds, resulting in death about every minute, but those who smoke are not the only ones at risk.

IOM Concludes:

- Secondhand-smoke exposure increases the risk of coronary heart disease and heart attacks
- Smoking bans reduce this risk.
- Given the prevalence of heart attacks, and the resultant deaths, smoking bans can have a substantial impact on public health.



In Summary

Thank you to all who helped build support for the passage of HB2: AN ACT TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES AND PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT.

- Enclosed areas of almost all restaurants and bars to be smoke-free effective January 2, 2010.
- Smoking is also banned in enclosed areas of establishments such as hotels, motels, and inns, and even convenience stores if food and drink are prepared there and they are subject to the state's sanitation laws.
- The NC Division of Public Health and the NC Association of Local Heath Directors are planning for implementation, with a heavy emphasis on educating businesses and the public about the law.
- See <u>www.smokefree.nc.gov</u> or call the DHHS CARE-LINE at 1-800-662-7030 for more information (or report a complaint about a possible violation after January 2, 2010.
- The Institute of Medicine's 2009 Report, Secondhand Smoke
 Exposure and Cardiovascular Effects gives us even more reason to
 work toward a comprehensive smokefree law in NC